IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please approve of the accompanying Replacement Sheet for Fig. 4 to

incorporate the changes noted below.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 29, 2005. Claims 1 to 71 are now pending in the application, with Claims 68 to 71 having been newly-added. Claims 1 and 31 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 10 and 39 would be allowable if they are rewritten into independent form. Applicants have chosen not to rewrite either of these claims into independent form at this time since it is believed that each of their respective base claims is allowable for at least the reasons set forth below.

Fig. 4 of the drawings was objected to for including a stray arrow. A Replacement Sheet for Fig. 4 is being submitted herewith in which the stray arrow has been identified as referring to a computer 10 as described in the specification. (See e.g., page 12, lines 11 to 30.) Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The specification was objected to for informalities. The specification has been amended to address the informalities noted in the Office Action, as well as some other informalities noted by Applicants. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the specification are respectfully requested.

Claims 23 and 52 were objected to for an informality that has been attended to by amendment without narrowing the scope of the claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 9, 11 to 38 and 40 to 67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,552,813 (Yacoub). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns managing resources of a wireless communication network. According to the invention, the network preferably comprises at least one base station and a plurality of processing devices as mobile stations for processing a computer document. The mobile devices in the network are located so as to obtain a position of each device in the network relative to a base station. This may be performed by the mobile stations listening for a signal from a base station so as to determine its relative position to the base station and other devices in the network. In performing the locating, if there are an insufficient number of base stations to perform the locating (e.g., there are no base stations for which the mobile station can use as a reference to determine its location), then a station operating as a mobile station (e.g., a hybrid station) switches its operating mode from the mobile station mode to the base station mode. (See, e.g., Fig. 11, steps 301 to 308.) As a result, the mobile station can determine its location relative to other devices in the network in order to select a device to use for processing the document.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is a method for managing resources of a wireless computer communication network, wherein the network comprises at least one base station and a plurality of processing devices as mobile stations, for processing a computer document stored on a processing control device connected by the network to at least one of the processing devices, the method comprising the steps of locating the processing devices in the network so as to obtain a position of each of the processing devices in the network, the locating step comprising a step of switching a

station operating as a mobile station to a base station operating mode when there are an insufficient number of base stations in the network to perform the locating step, and a first selecting step of selecting, from among the plurality of processing devices, at least one processing device as a function of a group of position criteria relating to the position of the processing devices, so as to obtain a first selected group of processing devices.

Amended independent Claim 31 is an apparatus claim that substantially corresponds to Claim 1.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1 and 31, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of locating processing devices functioning as mobile stations in a network so as to obtain a position of each of the processing devices in the network, and if there are an insufficient number of base stations in the network to perform the locating, switching a station operating as a mobile station to a base station operating mode.

Yacoub is merely seen to disclose a virtual printer that checks a user's preferences for printing a print job, and then determines which one of a plurality of printers on the network is the most appropriate for processing the print job based on the user's preferences. However, Yacoub is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of locating processing devices functioning as mobile stations in a network so as to obtain a position of each of the processing devices in the network, and if there are an insufficient number of base stations in the network to perform the locating, switching a station operating as a mobile station to a base station operating mode.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent Claims 1 and 31, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable over Yacoub.

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No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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